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Professor Richard E. Neustadt
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Dear Dick:

You're neat. I am especially touched by your gift, which awaited me upon my return from a trip, because my friends (except Roberta Wohlstetter) are all too cheap ever to give me copies of their books, despite hints; my usual counter, after waiting, is to ask them to loan me their own copy. However, if you hadn't been so thoughtful, I would probably have ended up paying for two copies (it may happen yet), since in several bookstores I have found myself reaching compulsively for your book as it caught my eye among the paperbacks; an involuntary gesture of tribute, since I know perfectly well that I have it at home, covered with notes, in hardback.

I had my copy with me that afternoon in the hopes that, if conversation lagged, I could seize the chance to discuss with you some of the marginalia it had inspired. I remember very well the time and the atmosphere in which I first read it. It came at just the right time for me, in Washington early in the Administration, and I remember the urgency with which I pressed it on Harry Rowen. There was a lot we would have liked to have discussed with you right then; and without having met you, we both missed your absence from town.

It does strike me as a good thing for the country that you are now going to be on hand to do some work. It will be a privilege if I can be of help. I think I can, by the way. I am looking forward very anxiously to talking some of these matters over with you.

Yours,

DE/ss

Daniel Ellsberg
Economics Department

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